

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/726,991

Examiner

Hien X. Vo

Applicant(s)

SCHUH, WILLIAM C.

Art Unit

2863

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed on 12/03/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-30.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 03 December 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 12/03/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 12/03/03. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-30 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Although the prior art disclose several claimed limitations, for example:

Foxlin (U.S. Patent No. 5,645,077) discloses an inertial orientation tracker apparatus having automatic drift compensation for tracking human head and other similarly sized body.

Piso et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,038,021) disclose the optically based on-line fiber monitoring system with drift compensation.

Blixhavn et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,304,827) disclose a device for compensating for temperature dependent effects on an electronic sensor output signal and based upon the compensation polynomial $H(V,T)$.

Chia et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,486,661) disclose a method of removing bias drift from the output signal of a sensor including the steps of determining the presence of bias drift based on the comparison, generating a bias adjustment command signal based on the determined presence of bias drift.

As per claims 1, 12, and 22, none of the prior art teach singularly or in combination a drift characterization tester, wherein the test sample is exposed to a predetermined thermal environment, and wherein measurements of the test sample output are analyzed to provide a functional relationship between temperature and time associated with the sensor test sample, a drift function describing the relationship between time and temperature derived from the thermal exposure testing of the test sample in the drift characterization tester, a second sensor manufactured from the same lot of material as the sensor test sample, a drift compensation instrument coupleable to the second sensor, and operable to retrieve the stored parameters of the drift function from the memory storage component and correct the output of the second sensor based on the drift function, and the sensor test sample is exposed to the predetermined thermal environment in the drift characterization tester to characterize the drift function that is used by the drift compensation instrument to compensate the output drift of the sensors manufactured from the same lot of material.

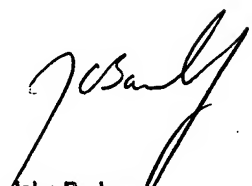
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hien X. Vo whose telephone number is (571) 272-2282. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:30) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on (571) 272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hien Vo
September 30, 2004


John Barlow
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800